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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/501,215	04/08/2005	Kenji Kamada	KAMADA1	3815
1444 7590 09/19/2008 BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C. 624 NINTH STREET, NW SUITE 300 WASHINGTON, DC 20001-5303				
EXAMINER				
PESELEV, ELLI				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
1623				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
09/19/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/501,215

Applicant(s)

KAMADA ET AL.

Examiner

Ellie Peselev

Art Unit

1623

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11, 25-28 and 35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11, 25-28 and 35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on August 11, 2008 has been entered.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 28 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miura et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,959,088).

Miura et al disclose the claimed Form D crystals of hemifumarate hydrate of a compound of formula (I) (Figures 7 and 8).

Applicant's arguments filed August 11, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Preparation of an old compound by a different method does not result in a patentably distinct compound.

Claims 8-11, 25-28 and 35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miura et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,959,088) in view of Spanton et al (U.S. Patent No. 5,945,405).

The compound claims are directed to form G-crystals, which are solvates. In paragraph [0071] of the specification it is stated that crystal forms G are solvates of crystal form D (G1 is an acetone solvate, G2 is a methylethylketone solvate and G3 is a tetrahydrofuran solvate). Miura et al disclose Form D crystals of hemifumarate erythromycin derivative (see, for example, Figures 7 and 8). Spanton et al disclose tetrahydrofuran solvates of an erythromycin derivative. It would have been prima facie obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to prepare solvates of the compound disclosed by Miura et al according to the processes disclosed by Spanton et al since preparation of solvates of erythromycin compounds was known in the prior art as disclosed by Spanton et al.

Applicant's arguments filed August 11, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant contends that the claimed Crystal Forms are quite different from crystal Forms A, C and D. This argument has not been found persuasive since the claimed crustal forms are solvates of known crystal forms. However, since the formation of crystalline solvates of erythromycin was know at the time the claimed invention was made as disclosed by Miura et al and Spanton and is predictable, the claimed compounds and the process for their preparation is still deemed prima-facie obvious over the cited prior art.

Claims 16-18, 23, 25 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miura et al in view of Spanton et al as applied to claims 8-11 and 19-34 above, and further in view of Bosch et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,504,017).

Miura et al disclose a humifumarate crystal of an erythromycin derivative. Spanton et al disclose various solvates of erythromycin crystals but does not disclose drying said solvates under reduced pressure. However, since Bosch et al disclose a conventional process for drying erythromycin solvates under reduced pressure (column 3, lines 60-67 and column 4, line 1), it would have been prima facie obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the claimed invention was made to use the conventional drying method disclosed by Bosch et al for drying solvates encompassed by the present claims.

Applicant's arguments filed August 11, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant contends that the prior art of record does not disclose a process of claim 27 for preparing Crystal Form D via Crystal Form E. This argument has not been found persuasive since Form E has not been defined in Claim 27. Further, claim 27 encompasses stirring Crystal Form E in a mixed solvent of ethyl acetate and water. Further, note that Crystal Form E would be expected to lose its crystalline structure when dissolved in water and result in a erythromycin derivative disclosed by the prior art of record,

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Elli Peshev whose telephone number is (571) 272-0659. The examiner can normally be reached on 8.00-4.30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shaojia Jiang can be reached on (571) 272-0627. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Elli Peselev

/Elli Peselev/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1623